

The invention relates to developments in the treatment of diabetes in mammals. Particularly it relates to a method of preparing a xenotransplantable porcine islet preparation capable upon xenotransplantation of producing porcine insulin in an appropriate recipient mammal.

- (I) harvesting the pancreas of piglets at or near full term gestation, and
- (ii) extracting pancreatic  $\beta$  islet cells from the harvested pancreas wherein the islets (at least at some stage in the performance of the method) are exposed to nicotinamide.

15

20